



#### MORRIS BROWN COLLEGE, ATLANTA, GA. FOUNDED 1885

Founded by the African Methodist Episcopal Church of Georgia. Occupies five acres of land and has two buildings and eight departments. Nine hundred and ninety-three students, 28 teachers, and 28 theological students were enrolled in 1908. The largest school of the denomination. Value of property, \$100,000. Approximate annual expenses, \$30,000, secured from the African Methodist Episcopal Church in Georgia. Rev. Dr. J. S. F. Flipper, president 1904-1908, was elected bishop in 1908. Rev. E. W. Lee, D.D., president.

### **Morris Brown College, Atlanta, Ga.** **Rev. E. W. Lee, A.M., D.D., President**

"A COLLEGE through the aid of a soap factory" is the way the friends of Morris Brown College, Atlanta, Ga., speak of the beginning and early years of the work of this institution.



E. W. Lee

The college is now under the control of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and controlled by a board of trustees elected almost entirely from members of this denomination. It has its origin in recognition of the need of such an institution for colored youth. To Rev. Wesley J. Gaines, now Bishop Gaines, is due the honor of the beginning and the early development of the institution.

In 1881, after the site for this school had been purchased, Rev. Mr. Gaines contracted with the Armstrong Soap

Company for the school to receive a percentage of all soap sold during a certain period. It has been said for several years nearly all of the women of the A. M. E. Church used no other soap than Armstrong's in their laundry. It was from the percentage, in part, that the first wooden building of the school was erected in 1885.

The school opened October 15, 1885, with 107 students. At the time there were already two well-equipped colleges in Atlanta for the education of the colored youth—Atlanta University, un denominational, and Clark University, one of the schools of the Freedmen's Aid Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The ministers and laymen of the A. M. E. Church, however, desired a school of their own denomination, and were willing to make any sacrifice for its establishment. Scores of ministers gave \$25 a year for its maintenance in this early period.

Morris Brown College has been from the first a purely Negro institution. The promoters were cognizant from the start that they could depend upon no source for money but themselves and a few thousand of poor freedmen. With a confidence in